



Testimony of the Connecticut AFL-CIO

Submitted to the Commerce Committee

March 12, 2014

Good morning Senator LeBeau, Representative Perone and members of the Commerce Committee. The Connecticut AFL-CIO on behalf of our 900 affiliated local unions who represent 200,000 working men and women all across this great state support the following:

S.B. No. 304 - An Act Maximizing Jobs For State Workers By Requiring Local Construction Hiring Reports By Recipients Of Economic Development Funds The Connecticut AFL-CIO has taken a position that transparency should be required for any entity that receives any public funding. We support this bill as it addresses construction project transparency by requiring full disclosure of employee wages, duties, and benefits that receive financial assistance. This bill attempts to level the playing field for our building trades' affiliates and aids putting Connecticut construction workers to work if taxpayer monies are utilized.

S.B. No. 421 – An Act Concerning Bidding Preferences In State And Municipal Contracting We support this bill as it also attempts to spur Connecticut job creation by Connecticut workers. We also support the language within this bill giving preference to supplies, materials, equipment and services provided in this state. Connecticut has a long history of being not only inventors but innovators and its workforce is its strength.

We are of the opinion that these bills are much needed economic vehicles for many of our affiliates. Passage of these bills gives them a brighter future in some instances and for those that have been unemployed due to the economic downturn, a bright future is on the horizon.

Respectfully Submitted,

Todd G. Berch

Field Director